

Application No.: 09/867,766

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, it is noted that the Examiner did not yet acknowledge the Information Disclosure Statement and cited art (i.e., U.S. Patent No. 6,006,354 and U.S. Patent No. 4,905,142) filed on May 31, 2001. Accordingly, the Examiner is again respectfully requested to acknowledge said prior art by initialing the corresponding PTO-1449 form and returning a copy to Applicants to ensure the cited references are considered and made of record.

In the outstanding Advisory Action dated October 19, 2005, the Examiner alleges that the amendment filed on October 3, 2005; specifically, the limitation "which cannot be read from outside of the integrated circuit"; allegedly raises the issue of new matter. It is not clear on what basis the Examiner makes the aforementioned allegation. In any event, in order to expedite prosecution, claims 1 and 5 have been amended to remove the alleged new matter.

In this regard, Applicants' specification and drawings disclose that the ROM data may be output only to the CRC checker 25, the comparator 26 and the logic circuit block 30. In addition, the specification discloses that "the confidential data stored on the ROM can be error-checked without allowing the third party to read out the confidential data from the integrated circuit" (*see, e.g.*, page 3, lines 14-16 of Applicants' specification). Furthermore, the drawings do not show a data bus or the like through which the ROM data can be read from outside.

CONCLUSION

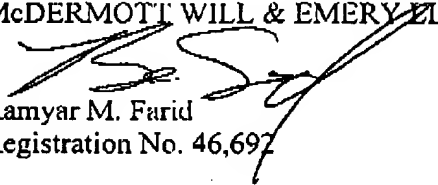
Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted.

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